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LETTER DATED 11 APRIL 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to inform you that on 9 April 1999 an act of aggression was committed against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from the territory of the Republic of Albania. The act represents a gross violation of international law and is in direct contravention of article 2, paragraph 1, of the Agreement concluded between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Albania in Tirana on 27 June 1978 on measures to prevent and resolve incidents on the Yugoslav-Albanian border.

The act of aggression took place at the 10-kilometre long State border line between the border posts of Morina and Kosare and its aim was to break the State border defences and create a bridgehead for an invasion by a substantial mechanized force. It was committed by the terrorist forces of ethnic Albanians from Kosovo and Metohija with the support of the armed forces of the Republic of Albania, using 120-mm mortars, multiple rocket launchers and heavy artillery. NATO forces were also directly involved in this illegal act by support fire from helicopters. It is estimated that the forces that attacked the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia numbered between 800 and 1,000 terrorists, including about 100 mujahedin.

The border units of the army of Yugoslavia repelled the aggression and the enemy forces were expelled from the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by 3 p.m. on 10 April 1999. Enemy mortar and artillery fire, however, continued from the territory of the Republic of Albania.

In repelling the attack, the army of Yugoslavia sustained the following losses: two soldiers were killed and nine were wounded.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia requests the Security Council to condemn this act of aggression, which represents an involvement of a neighbouring country in the NATO aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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